

EC Initiatives on Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities



Agenda

Type	Time	Title	Location	Session partners	Short description
07. Nov 23					
Booth Welcome & Introduction	10:00-10:30	Introducing the EC Initiatives on Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities	EC Initiative Booth I Hall 1, Booth C51	Smart Cities Marketplace	Under the banner of "EC Initiatives on Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities," the European Commission is initiating a collective presence of 31 partners comprising initiatives, projects, and DGs (Directorate-Generals), united by a common goal: to accelerate the implementation of sustainable urban solutions in alignment with the EU Green Deal and REPowerEU plan at local level. The session will introduce the vision for the upcoming days and explain the common narrative and what activities will take place to the audience and partners.
Booth I Session	11:15-11:45	Catalyzing European Innovation: A Deep Dive into the iCapital Challenge (The EU Capital of Innovation Awards)	EC Initiative Booth I Hall 1, Booth C51	The iCapital alumni network	Cities are faced with some of the most severe societal and sustainability challenges but do also have the means to develop and apply effective innovative solutions. They are the place where ideas, people, public and private actors meet and interact to improve the quality of citizens' lives. The European Capital of Innovation Awards (iCapital) recognize the cities' role as catalysers of the local innovation ecosystem and stimulate new activities aimed at boosting game-changing innovation. The iCapital Alumni network gather past winners and runners up of this prestigious competition.
Booth I Session	12:00-12:30	European matchmaking platform for innovative transport and mobility tools and services	EC Initiative Booth I Hall 1, Booth C51	ENTRANCE	In this session ENTRANCE will offer an overview of the ARRIVAL matchmaking platform focusing on the "first of a kind" solutions that the project has identified to face urban transport challenges on sustainable city logistics, urban waste collection services, safer cycling solutions, urban air mobility and urban road delivery. The main objective is to mobilise financial resources to accelerate the market access and upscaling of innovative sustainable transport and mobility solutions and

					foster their de-risking, thereby reducing the European CO2 emissions and pollutants caused by the transport and mobility sector.
Booth Session	13:30-14:00	Digital pathways for Sustainable and Climate-resilient urban future	EC Initiative Booth I Hall 1, Booth C51	BUILDSPACE	This session will focus on how digital tools can be leveraged to support energy efficient buildings and climate resilient cities. The case of BUILDSPACE project will be presented, where digital services are being developed utilizing cutting-edge technologies, such as satellite data analysis, digital twins, virtual and augmented reality (AR/VR), and drones. The session will include a panel discussion with interactive elements about the adoption and uptake of digital solutions for sustainable and climate resilient cities.
Booth Session	14:00-15:00	Networking with Smart Cities and Communities projects	EC Initiative Booth I Hall 1, Booth C51	Scalable Cities, NetZeroCities, BUILDSPACE, ASCEND, NEUTRALPATH	In this session, participants will be able to connect with representatives from across the smart cities and communities' projects through the "speed-networking" format, where they will present their services and activities and reflect on the needs of cities with regards to climate neutrality goals.
Agora Session	14:45-15:30	EDIC - A game changer for smart communities	SCEWC Expo Area Hall 2, Central Plaza	DG CNECT, Urbanage, dRURAL, RESPONSE, AURORAL, COMPAIR	This session will introduce the concept of the EDIC instrument and its relevance for member states, regions, and cities' policy development. We will hear the projects' viewpoint, illustrated with examples, on how the EDIC can help amplify and replicate their achievements and how it can aid future projects.
Booth Session	15:15-16:00	Radical collaborations for lower emissions and higher quality, in European cities and communities	EC Initiative Booth I Hall 1, Booth C51	CrAft, NEB-STAR, Re-Value	In this session we will explore different ways that the principles of the New European Bauhaus can be applied towards more beautiful, truly inclusive, and highly collaborative transitions to resilience and climate neutrality.
Booth Session	16:15-17:15	Quick Wins Through Collaboration - Strengthening City-Focused Opportunities	EC Initiative Booth I Hall 1, Booth C51	Smart Cities Marketplace, all partners	In the quest for smarter, climate-neutral cities, there are a multitude of projects and initiatives all contributing with varying scopes and specific objectives. This workshop will investigate options of building synergies on concrete actions and discuss questions on the who, what, why and when of the cooperation between European offers for smart and climate neutral cities and towns.
Agora Session	17:00-17:45	Scaling Up Mobility and Energy Projects with Innovative Business Models	SCEWC Expo Area Hall 2, Central Plaza	SPARCS, SCALABLE CITIES, MAKING-CITY	The session will focus on the state of European smart cities business models and financing schemes that were implemented in EU funded Smart Cities and Communities projects. The focus is on how these projects have harnessed innovative funding models to support the implementation of cutting-edge mobility and energy solutions, paving the way towards a greener and more sustainable urban landscape and how they can be replicated in other cities.
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Booth Session	10:00-12:00	Matching needs with solutions: cities, businesses, and investors together to accelerate climate action	EC Initiative Booth I Hall 1, Booth C51	Covenant of Mayors Europe, EU City Facility, Covenant of Companies, CIVITAS, ENTRANCE	This workshop will showcase inspiring examples of how the potential of a cooperation between cities, SMEs and investors can advance local efforts in climate action.
Booth Session	12:00-13:00	Digitalisation from Local to Global	EC Initiative Booth I Hall 1, Booth C51	DG CONNECT, COMPAIR, URBANAGE, AURORAL, digiNEB, dRURAL	Often the local level is more flexible and quicker to find innovative digital solutions. The session will focus on this dynamism with examples and reflect on local/national and regional/urban dynamics, giving examples on how these different spheres can influence each other.

Congress I Session	12:30-13:20	Beautiful and inclusive transitions to resilient, climate-neutral cities and communities driven by radical collaboration	SCEWC Congress I Hall 2, Tomorrow Building Room	CrAft, NEB-Star, RE-Value, POCITYF, digiNEB	In this session, 5 projects will have an interactive discussion with the audience on what a successful transition into resilient and climate-neutral cities will look like, and how we are working to achieve this by 2030. Participants will debate how the NEB values come together in these transformations and how the collective expertise of different initiatives can support them into being more beautiful, truly inclusive, and highly collaborative. [access only with Congress pass]
Booth Session	14:30-15:00	CIVITAS: Mobility Solutions That Inspire	EC Initiative Booth I Hall 1, Booth C51	CIVITAS	You know the CIVITAS Initiative. After more than 20 years of urban mobility research and innovation, you have probably seen, learned from, and maybe even participated in some of its past projects. But do you know what it has planned for the coming years? In this interactive session, stakeholders from across the CIVITAS Community will offer a taste of what's to come – from new resources for practitioners, to support activities for cities across Europe, to synergies across the urban mobility ecosystem.
Booth Session	15:00-16:00	Sustainable Cities Powered by Positive Energy Concepts	EC Initiative Booth I Hall 1, Booth C51	ATELIER, SPARCS, RESPONSE, POCITYF	This session will look into the crucial role of Positive Energy Districts (PEDs), Neighbourhoods, and Buildings in shaping sustainable cities in Europe. Join us as we present and discuss various solutions implemented across more than 10 European cities as part of EU-funded projects SPARCS, POCITYF, ATELIER, and RESPONSE to revolutionise urban development.
Congress session I Policy focus	16:30-17:30	Creating Irresistible Climate-Neutral Cities	SCEWC Congress I Hall 2, Green Room	Smart Cities Marketplace, Covenant of Mayors Europe, EU City Facility, European Innovation Council, NetZeroCities	In transition times, cities have a strategic advantage for improving quality of life and exploring new work approaches. Despite facing barriers, cities lead in climate action. This session focuses on overcoming obstacles and showcasing sustainable urban solutions, from engaging citizens to setting up new financing schemes. It discusses inclusive, cross-cutting approaches beyond technical enhancements, making climate neutrality irresistible for all stakeholders, unlocking benefits, and ensuring accessibility. [access only with Congress pass]
Booth Session	16:15-16:45	From Cities to Regions: The Role of Energy Citizenship and Transition Super-Labs	EC Initiative Booth I Hall 1, Booth C51	ENCLUDE, TRANSFORMER	The session will include a short presentation of the two sister projects as well as of the concepts of energy citizenship and Transition Super-Labs and their role in the smart and sustainable cities and regions of the future. ENCLUDE's part will focus on an Interactive Policy Platform that is currently developed to operationalize the project's findings, helping policymakers to dig deep into how citizen-led energy initiatives in Europe currently work. TRANSFORMER's part will focus on Transition Super-Labs (TSL) and its new Knowledge Hub. The Knowledge hub is a platform to gather information from various sources, including external projects and TRANSFORMER Super-Labs. The hub will act as an advisory tool for cities and regions.
Booth Session	16:45-17:15	Positive Energy Districts - Hands-On Experiences of Transition Projects		+CityxChange, EERA JPSC, EXCESS, MAKING CITY	

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Booth Session	10:15-11:00	European funding opportunities for the digital transformation of cities	EC Initiative Booth I Hall 1, Booth C51	HaDEA	CEF Digital supports the early deployment of 5G-based systems to enable innovative use cases for socio-economic drivers, such as public administrations, healthcare centres, schools and other education and training institutions and make them “smarter”.
Agora Session	10:45-11:30	PEDs as a Component For Designing Towards Climate Neutrality	SCEWC Expo Area Hall 2, Central Plaza	ATELIER, +CityxChange, ASCEND, EXCESS, NEUTRALPATH	This session will discuss the role of Positive Energy Districts (PEDs) as a component for achieving climate neutrality and how to replicate this concept. A specific focus will be given to broader functions of PEDs such as social innovation.
Booth I Closing session	11:30-12:00	Sustainable Smart Cities: The Path Ahead	EC Initiative Booth I Hall 1, Booth C51	DG ENER, DG CNECT, HADEA	Under the banner of "EC Initiatives on Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities," the European Commission gathered 31 partners for the last three days to discuss how the given EU policy framework foster sustainable growth in urban areas and how projects and initiatives can use synergies to explore ways to accelerate its implementation and secure a greener future for all.